(c) to (e) The Ministry has received a proposal from the Government of Andhra Pradesh for clearance of R&R Plan for ST PAFs in respect of India Sagar Project (Polavaram Project). The project involves inter-state issues with the State of Orissa and Chhattisgarh, and displacement of about one lakh tribals from their homelands in the State of Andhra Pradesh, Orissa and Chhattisgarh. It therefore requires careful examination on merits. Further, the State Government of Andhra Pradesh is required to submit information through the Central Water Commission on technical aspects related to submergence of lands, especially in the States of Orissa and Chhattisgarh. Details of resolutions of gram sabhas specially of the villages coming under submergence in Orissa and Chhattisgarh are also required. As the information received is incomplete, grant of clearance to the R&R Plan for ST PAFs has not been considered.

Tribal population in Jharkhand

1469. MS. MABEL REBELLO: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that tribal population in Jharkhand is decreasing by 0.5 per cent per annum;

(b) what are the reasons for the same; and

(c) the steps proposed by Government to rectify this situation?

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI P.R. KYNDIAH): (a) As per the Census figures, the total Scheduled Tribe (ST) population of Jharkhand State has increased from 6,044,010 in 1991 Census to 7,087,068 in 2001 Census. During the decade 1991-2001, the population of STs in the State has registered a 17.3 per cent growth.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

Land for ousted tribals under Polavaram Dam in A. P.

1470. SHRI S. M. LALJAN BASHA: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the report in print media that the new rehabilitation law will ensure that oustees will get to buy land;

(b) if so, whether Government will allot sufficient funds to buy land at market price;

(c) the details of funding required under this policy to buy land for ousted tribals under Polavaram Dam in Andhra Pradesh; and

(d) the funds released by Government for this specific purpose?

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI P. R. KYNDIAH) : (a) The Central Government in the Ministry of Rural Development has already taken action for formulating a revised Rehabilitation Policy, *viz.* the National Rehabilitation Policy (NRP)-2007, with the objective to minimize displacement and to promote, as far as possible, non-displacing or least-displacing alternatives, ensure adequate rehabilitation packages and expeditious implementation of the rehabilitation process with the active participation of displaced persons and also to ensure that special care is taken for protecting the rights of and ensuring affirmative State action for weaker segments of society, specially members of SCs and STs and to create obligations on the State for their treatment with concern and sensitivity. The revised Rehabilitation Policy is not in existence as on date.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Financial assistance for development of adivasis in Kerala

1471. SHRI K. CHANDRAN PILLAI: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Kerala have forwarded a request for financial assistance for taking up development work and also to purchase land for rehabilitating adivasis in Wayanad District of Kerala;

(b) if so, the details of the amount sought by the State; and

(c) the steps taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI P. R. KYNDIAH) : (a) A proposal for financial assistance for taking up development work and also to purchase land for rehabilitating adivasis in Wayanad District of Kerala has been received in the Ministry of Tribal Affairs.